

The Minds We Need: Research and Education Infrastructure Inclusion, Innovation, and Competitiveness

Action Plan and Funding Timeline

Our plans call for a \$5.07 Billion one-time investment, to be completed in three phases, extending the nation's research and education infrastructure and R&E leading-edge capabilities to every community college, minority serving institution, and college and university, enabling innovation while ensuring every college student is connected into an advanced digital fabric.

Awards in all categories should be prioritized to nonprofit R&E networks, tribal, and/or across all community colleges, minority serving institutions, colleges and universities, and university research-affiliated organizations that can then form partnerships, as appropriate, with private sector companies to implement the programs, with a goal of engaging our nation's diverse system of 3,900 accredited, degree-granting higher education institutions.

Phase 1: Focus on Needs Assessment, Training, Planning, Local Organizational Development, Federal Agency Coordination, and Tools Development (\$370.5 Million)

- \$5M per state, territory and District of Columbia for planning grant resulting in a needs analysis
- Up to \$1.25M to each state, territory and District of Columbia for consortia building and training
- \$10M national coordinating strategy planning grant
- \$7.5M for up to 5 multi-state consortia building and training
- \$500K/year for 5 years to support inter-agency federal government coordination

Phase 2: Transition from Planning to Initial Implementation (\$1.45 Billion)

- Up to \$25M per state, territory and District of Columbia to begin implementation identified in plan
- \$50M for development of collaboration tools, security, and infrastructure at the national level
- Develop and release program rules for Phase 3 program, based on Phase 1 needs analysis and Phase 2 implementation

Phase 3: Full Implementation Programs (\$3.25 Billion)

- \$3.25B in needs-based grants, linked to the prior years planning activities, to address local, state, regional, national, tribal and territorial needs and gaps
- Up to \$150M of the total for undersea cable R&E capacity to connect territories, Alaska, and Hawaii

Read the full paper and implementation recommendations: www.mindsweneed.org